

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**Claim 1-12 (canceled):**

**Claim 13 (withdrawn – previously presented):** A method for immunizing a subject comprising:

administering an immunizing effective amount of a nucleic acid comprising a deletion mutation of the budding mediating motif of a viral protein encoded by the nucleic acid,  
wherein the viral protein is associated with the virus budding process.

**Claim 14 (withdrawn):** The method of Claim 13 comprising further administering a recombinant protein or vector boost.

**Claim 15 (withdrawn – previously presented):** A method for immunizing a subject comprising:

administering an immunizing effective amount of a vector comprising a nucleic acid comprising a deletion mutation of the budding mediating motif of a viral protein encoded by the nucleic acid,  
wherein the viral protein is associated with the virus budding process.

**Claim 16 (withdrawn):** The method of Claim 15 comprising further administering a recombinant protein boost.

**Claims 17-20 (canceled)**

**Claim 21 (withdrawn – previously presented):** A method for augmenting a cellular immune response to a virus comprising:

administering an effective amount of a nucleic acid comprising a deletion mutation of the budding mediating motif of a viral protein encoded by the nucleic acid to augment the cellular immune response to the virus,  
wherein the viral protein is associated with the virus budding process.

**Claim 22 (withdrawn):** The method of Claim 21 further comprising administering a recombinant protein or vector boost.

**Claim 23 (withdrawn – previously presented):** A method for augmenting a cellular immune response to a virus comprising:

administering an effective amount of a vector comprising a nucleic acid comprising a deletion mutation of the budding mediating motif of a viral protein encoded by the nucleic acid to augment the cellular immune response to the virus,  
wherein the viral protein is associated with the virus budding process.

**Claim 24 (withdrawn):** The method of Claim 23 further comprising administering a recombinant protein boost.

**Claims 25-28 (canceled)**

**Claim 29 (currently amended):** A DNA molecule comprising a nucleic acid encoding a viral protein, the nucleic acid comprising:

~~a one contiguous deletion mutation of the budding mediating motif of a viral protein encoded by the nucleic acid~~ of contiguous amino acids in the nucleic acid;  
wherein the viral protein is associated with the virus budding process;

wherein the budding mediating motif ~~one contiguous deletion~~ consists of an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of PTAP (SEQ ID NO: 1), PPX<sub>1</sub>Y (SEQ ID NO:2), YX<sub>2</sub>X<sub>3</sub>L (SEQ ID NO:3), and a combination thereof; ~~and wherein the budding mediating motif does not include of any amino acids directly adjacent to the amino acid sequence.~~

**Claim 30 (currently amended):** The DNA molecule of Claim 29~~[[,]]~~;

wherein the viral protein is a Gag protein of a retrovirus or a matrix protein of a rhabdovirus or filovirus.

**Claim 31 (previously presented):** A vector comprising the DNA molecule of Claim 29.

**Claim 32 (previously presented):** A composition comprising the vector of Claim 31.

**Claim 33 (previously presented):** A composition comprising the DNA molecule of Claim 29.

**Claim 34 (currently amended):** A DNA molecule comprising a nucleic acid encoding a viral protein, the nucleic acid comprising:

a deletion mutation of the budding mediating motif of a ~~the~~ viral protein ~~encoded by the~~ nucleic acid~~[[,]]~~;

~~wherein the viral protein is associated with the virus budding process, and~~

wherein the budding mediating motif comprises an amino acid sequence selected from the group consisting of PPX<sub>1</sub>Y (SEQ ID NO:2), YX<sub>2</sub>X<sub>3</sub>L (SEQ ID NO:3), and a combination thereof;

wherein X<sub>1</sub> is not P;

wherein when X<sub>2</sub> is P, X<sub>3</sub> is not D; and

wherein when X<sub>3</sub> is D, X<sub>2</sub> is not P.

**Claim 35 (currently amended):** The DNA molecule of Claim 34{[{}]};

wherein the viral protein is a Gag protein of a retrovirus or a matrix protein of a rhabdovirus or filovirus.

**Claim 36 (previously presented):** A vector comprising the DNA molecule of Claim 34.

**Claim 37 (previously presented):** A composition comprising the vector of Claim 36.

**Claim 38 (previously presented):** A composition comprising the DNA molecule of Claim 34.